IN THE CLAIMS

PLEASE AMEND THE CLAIMS AS FOLLOWS:

1. (Currently amended) A method for retrieving specified content in a peer-to-peer network, the method comprising:

checking the availability of specified content from content sources including other clients and content servers in the peer-to-peer network, wherein the availability of the specified content is identified in a list of available content ~~and clients~~, the list provided to clients in the peer-to-peer network, and wherein the list of available content ~~and clients~~ is periodically updated to reflect a current availability of content from the content sources; and

retrieving the specified content in parallel from multiple content sources, wherein ~~retrieving~~ the specified content is retrieved from one or more of the other clients in the peer-to-peer network when the specified content is available from one or more of the other clients in the peer-to-peer network as identified by the list of available content ~~and clients;~~, and ~~retrieving~~ the specified content is retrieved from one or more of the [[a]] content servers in the peer-to-peer network either when the specified content is not identified on the list of available content ~~and clients~~ or to satisfy a delivery guarantee of the specified content.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein retrieving the specified content from the one or more of the other clients includes:

retrieving a first portion of the specified content from a first other client in the peer-to-peer network; and

retrieving a second portion of the specified content from a second other client of in the peer-to-peer network, wherein the first and second other clients are both identified on the list of available content ~~and clients~~.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a content broker selects the one or more content servers based on a cost associated with each of the content servers.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a content broker selects the one or more content servers based on the bandwidth availability of each of the content servers.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the specified content includes audio content.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the specified content includes video content.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the specified content includes a static item of content.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein retrieval of the specified content includes retrieval of a header associated with one or more packets corresponding to the specified content, the header including information identifying the one or more packets.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising repeating retrieval of corrupted packets from the one or more packets corresponding to the specified content.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

determining that a retrieved portion of the specified content is corrupted; and

retrieving an uncorrupted portion of the specified content from another content source in the peer-to-peer network, the another content source identified on the list of available content ~~and clients~~.

11-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A method for content distribution in a peer-to-peer network, the method comprising:

identifying content sources including a plurality of clients in a peer-to-peer network and a dedicated content server;

identifying content available at each of the plurality of clients in the peer-to-peer network; and

sending each of the plurality of clients information to identify the [[a]] dedicated content server and content available at client peers, wherein the information is periodically updated to reflect a current availability of content from ~~and~~ client peers, whereby specified content is retrieved ~~downloaded~~ by a requesting client in parallel from multiple content sources, the specified content being retrieved from one or more of the plurality of clients when the specified content is available from the one or more of the plurality of clients in the peer-to-peer network as identified by the information concerning available content ~~and clients~~, and the specified content being [[is]] retrieved from the dedicated content server either when the specified content is not identified by the information concerning available content ~~and clients~~ or to satisfy a delivery guarantee of the specified content.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the information includes a priority ranking of the content sources ~~ranked by priority~~.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the priority ranking is based on cost.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the priority ranking is based on available bandwidth.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the priority ranking varies over time of day.

19-29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising acquiring a license for the specified content.

31. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising authenticating a requesting user prior to granting access to the list of available content ~~and clients~~.

32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising authenticating each of the plurality of clients prior to providing information concerning the current availability of content from [[and]] client peers.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising acquiring a license prior to the specific content being downloaded by the requesting client.

34. (Currently amended) A system for peer-to-peer distribution of content, the system comprising:

a content server configured to store content for distribution in a peer-to-peer network;

an authentication server configured to authenticate the presence of individual clients requesting the content in the peer-to-peer network;

a content broker configured to distribute and update information about the presence of authenticated individual clients in the peer-to-peer network, the content broker further configured to distribute and update information about the availability of content at content sources including the content server and authenticated individual clients in the peer-to-peer network, wherein specified content is retrievable in parallel from multiple content sources, the specified content being retrieved from one or more of the authenticated individual clients when the specified content is available from the one or more of the authenticated individual clients as identified by the information concerning the availability of content, and the specified content being retrieved from the content server either when the specified content is not identified by the information concerning the availability of content or to satisfy a delivery guarantee of the specified content; and

a license server configured to license content for download by an authenticated individual client from another authenticated client in the peer-to-peer network.

35. (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, where the content broker further distributes and updates information concerning bandwidth availability, cost, or availability windows of the content server or individual authenticated clients in the peer-to-peer network.

36. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium having embodied thereon a program, the program being executable by a processor to perform a method for retrieving specified content in a peer-to-peer network, the method comprising:

checking the availability of specified content from content sources including other clients and content servers in the peer-to-peer network, wherein the availability of the specified content is identified in a list of available content ~~and clients~~, the list provided to clients in the peer-to-peer network, and wherein the list of available content ~~and clients~~ is periodically updated to reflect a current availability of content from the content sources; and

retrieving the specified content in parallel from multiple content sources, wherein ~~retrieving~~ the specified content is retrieved from one or more of the other clients in the peer-to-peer network when the specified content is available from one or more of the other clients in the peer-to-peer network as identified by the list of available content ~~and clients;~~, and ~~retrieving~~ the specified content is retrieved from one or more of the [[a]] content servers in the peer-to-peer network either when the specified content is not identified on the list of available content ~~and clients~~ or to satisfy a delivery guarantee of the specified content.

37. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium having embodied thereon a program, the program being executable by a processor to perform a method for content distribution in a peer-to-peer network, the method comprising:

identifying content sources including a plurality of clients in a peer-to-peer network and a dedicated content server;

identifying content available at each of the plurality of clients in the peer-to-peer network; and

sending each of the plurality of clients information to identify the [[a]] dedicated content server and content available at client peers, wherein the information is periodically updated to reflect a current availability of content from ~~and~~ client peers, whereby specified content is retrieved ~~downloaded~~ by a requesting client in parallel from multiple content sources, the specified content being retrieved from one or more of the plurality of clients when the specified content is available from the one or more of the plurality of clients in the peer-to-peer network as identified by the information concerning available content ~~and clients~~, and the specified content being [[is]] retrieved from the dedicated content server either when the specified content is not identified by the information concerning available content ~~and clients~~ or to satisfy a delivery guarantee of the specified content.